

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

## **TODD P. GRAVES**

JANUARY 26, 2004 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## KC MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF CRACK COCAINE, FIREARM

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City man was sentenced in federal court today after being convicted by a federal jury for illegally possessing crack cocaine and a firearm.

**Robert R. Hill**, 30, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to life plus five years in federal prison without parole.

On Sept. 3, 2003, **Hill** was found guilty by a federal jury of three counts of federal firearms and narcotics violations. He was initially charged with the crime in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 20, 2002, in Kansas City.

Specifically, **Hill** was convicted of possessing with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine on April 2, 1999. He also was found guilty of two counts of federal firearms violations. The federal jury convicted **Hill** of being a felon in possession of a Hi Point 9 mm semi automatic revolver on April 2, 1999. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Hill** has two 1995 criminal felony convictions for drug trafficking and unlawful use of a weapon, in Jackson County, Mo. The jury also found **Hill** guilty of possessing a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime on April 2, 1999, which also is a violation of federal law, Graves added.

**Hill** was originally arrested following a routine traffic stop by law enforcement officers on April 2, 1999, at approximately 10 a.m. At that time, law enforcement officers stopped Hill, who was driving a 1987 Chevrolet Caprice near 24<sup>th</sup> Street in Kansas City.

Law enforcement officers learned that **Hill** had an outstanding warrant and placed him under arrest. Upon searching his vehicle, law enforcement officers and a police dog discovered the crack cocaine and firearm in **Hill's** vehicle, Graves said.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine A. Connelly. It was investigated Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at <a href="https://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow">www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow</a>